

# HEADLINES

This Was The Week

**Daily News**



● **SATURDAY: The GCC and the US will announce a new "strategic forum" on security.**

**Daily News**



● **SUNDAY: Critics making false allegations against Gulf Air have been accused of damaging Bahrain's economy.**

**Daily News**



● **MONDAY: Work on a major housing project in the Northern Town will start next month.**

**Daily News**



● **TUESDAY: The future of Gulf Air takes centre stage as HRH the Premier chairs a work meeting.**

**Daily News**



● **WEDNESDAY: A government minister stands up to MPs trying to undermine Bahrain's tourism industry.**

**Daily News**



● **THURSDAY: Iranian Defence Minister Ahmad Vahidi warns Gulf states not to adopt a US-backed missile shield project.**



## LOCAL AND WORLD REPORT

FOCUS ON BREAKING NEWS THIS MORNING  
IN BAHRAIN AND ACROSS THE GLOBE

# Bahrain's reforms are hailed



■ The Crown Prince receives the US Congressman

**MANAMA:** His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander, yesterday confirmed Bahrain's resolve to continue the reform process initiated by His Majesty King Hamad, putting citizens' interests and ambitions on top of all priorities.

This came as he received US Congressman Dan Burton at Riffa Palace.

He stressed the importance of national unity, describing it as Bahrain's best asset. "Our unity and harmony project the kingdom's image and reflect our firm stance that rejects sectarian discrimination, disunity and all that seeks to erode our entity," he said.

He reiterated the kingdom's resolve to preserve achievements and protect lives, expressing pride in citizens.

He praised security forces for their efforts to ensure people's comfort and maintain order in a civilised way.

Mr Burton lauded His Majesty for his statesmanship, steps to modernise Bahrain and promote reforms, reiterating his country's support.



■ The Crown Prince with the British Ambassador

He urged the media to project Bahrain's true image and provide accurate information about events.

He also hailed HRH the Crown Prince for promoting the culture of dialogue.

HRH the Crown Prince, in separate talks with British Ambassador Iain Lindsay, hailed strong relations, stressing Bahrain's keenness to bolster them in all fields.

He highlighted both kingdoms' support to all measures to achieve regional stability and security and enable citizens to reap the dividends of prosperity.

HRH the Crown Prince's political and economic affairs adviser Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa and adviser Shaikh Ahmed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa attended both meetings.

## PREMIER'S GESTURE

**MANAMA:** His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has directed the Health Ministry to send for treatment abroad a Bahraini patient suffering from hemiplegia following a road accident.

His mother expressed gratitude to HRH the Premier for his kind gesture, wishing him a healthy long life.

## UN protection for Titanic's wreck

**PARIS:** The remains of the *Titanic*, under water for almost a century, are to fall under United Nations protection. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) says the wreck of the famed ship will fall under a 2001 convention on protecting underwater cultural heritage on the 100th anniversary of its sinking. The convention only applies to remains submerged for more than 100 years. The *Titanic* sank on April 15, 1912 in international waters in the North Atlantic. Unesco said the convention means signatory governments can seize artifacts stolen from the *Titanic* or prevent exploration "deemed unscientific or unethical."

### ■ Reactor fire scare

**PARIS:** Two small fires that broke out at EDF's Penly 2 nuclear reactor in northwestern France yesterday have been put out by the fire service, an EDF spokeswoman said, adding there had been no injuries.

Smoke inside the reactor triggered an automatic outage. The French utility said two small fires were caused by hot oil leaking from a pump on the primary cooling circuit of the reactor. The fire service put out the fire, EDF said, adding the incident had had no impact on the environment. France's nuclear safety watchdog said it would carry out an inspection at the reactor today.

### ■ Town sold

**SALMON, Idaho:** The town of Buford, Wyoming - population one - was sold for \$900,000 (BD339,120) to an unidentified buyer yesterday after an 11-minute auction that attracted worldwide interest. The tiny Western town garnered international attention in advance of the sale of 10-plus acres (four hectares) with a convenience store, petrol station and modular home located in southeast Wyoming between Cheyenne and Laramie. Don Sammons purchased the town in 1992. He decided to auction off Buford to move to Colorado.



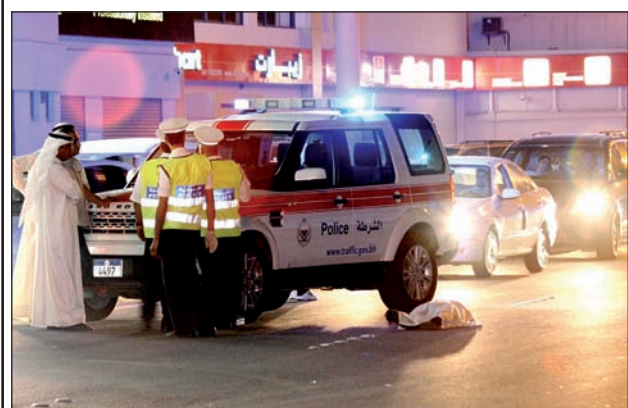
■ The smashed windscreen of the car

## Pedestrian dies in crash

**MANAMA:** A Bahraini pedestrian was killed in a road accident on Al Estiqlal Highway at 8pm.

The incident happened when a Bahraini man, accompanied by his wife and children, was driving his car when suddenly three young Bahrainis tried to cross the road. The driver tried to avoid them, but one of them was hit and died on the spot. The other two escaped unhurt, but one of them assaulted the car driver. The car sustained minor damage.

The body was taken to Salmaniya Medical Complex.



■ Police arrive at the scene of the accident

## Syria truce deadline set as 33 killed

**BEIRUT:** Syria told UN-Arab League envoy Kofi Annan it had begun pulling troops out of several cities yesterday in line with a peace plan accepted by President Bashar Al Assad, but his foes said the army was still firing in those towns and elsewhere.

Annan said the Syrian army and rebels must end all violence by 6am Syrian time on Thursday if the government meets its agreed deadline to halt fighting two days earlier.

"I urge the government and the opposition commanders to issue clear instructions so that the message reaches across the country, down to the fighter and soldier at the local level," the former UN chief told the UN General Assembly.

Annan reported "alarming levels" of daily casualties in Syria as a UN team arrived in Damascus to negotiate the possible deployment of UN monitors for any cease-fire between Syrian troops and rebel forces.

Annan's spokesman Ahmad Fawzi said in Geneva that Syrian authorities had "told us that they have begun withdrawing troops from certain areas", namely the cities of Deraa, Idlib and Zabadani.

"They are complete liars, there is no army withdrawal, they are still in the middle of the city. They fired on the city this morning, like they do every day," a man calling himself Abu Mustafa said by telephone from Zabadani near the Lebanon border.

However, he did acknowledge a modest pullback. "The army withdrew 15 tanks yesterday, but the rest are all around the checkpoints as usual," Abu Mustafa said.

The opposition Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported at least 33 people, including 14 soldiers, killed yesterday, 16 of them in the city of Homs and 14 in Idlib province.

## Rioters clash with police

**MANAMA:** Anti-government protesters clashed with police in Tubli and near Interior Ministry's headquarters in Manama demanding the release of activist Abdulhadi Al Khawaja.

Footage online showed latest pictures of Mr Al Khawaja in detention after authorities stated he had lost 10kg because of his hunger strike.

Videos of Mr Al Khawaja's daughter, Zainab Al Khawaja, protesting near the Interior Ministry surfaced as police was heavily deployed to prevent protesters from coming in close proximity to the headquarters.

● One person of a group of rioters in Jid Ali fled the scene after sustaining burns from Molotov cocktails, the Interior Ministry said on its Twitter account.